

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing the concentration of arsenic [compounds] in water, comprising contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant selected from the group consisting of limestone, dolomite, [zeolite, iron oxide, magnesium carbonate] and mixtures or combinations thereof, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 30 parts per billion.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 20 parts per billion.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 10 parts per billion.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 5 parts per billion.

6. (Withdrawn)

7. (Withdrawn)

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant is conducted by passing arsenic-containing water through a housing containing a removable cartridge containing said reactant.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant is conducted by passing said arsenic-containing water through a packed column containing said reactant.

10. (Withdrawn)

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant is conducted at the point of source of said water.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant is conducted at the point of use of said water.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant is conducted between the source and the use of said water.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising testing the arsenic-containing water after said contact with the reactant.

Claims 15 - 24 (Withdrawn)

25. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing the concentration of arsenic [compounds] in drinking water, comprising passing arsenic-containing water through a packed column containing a reactant selected from the group consisting of limestone, dolomite, [zeolite and iron oxide, magnesium carbonate ]and mixtures or combinations thereof, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 30 parts per billion.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 20 parts per billion.

28. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 10 parts per billion.

29. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 5 parts per billion.

30. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein said step of passing arsenic-containing water through a packed column containing a reactant is conducted by passing arsenic-containing water through a housing containing a removable cartridge containing said reactant.

31. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein said step of contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant is conducted at the point of source of said water.

32. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein said step of contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant is conducted at the point of use of said water.

33. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein said step of contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant is conducted between the source and the use of said water.

34. (Original) The method of Claim 25, further comprising testing the arsenic-containing water after said contact with the reactant.

Claims 35 - 46 (Withdrawn)

47. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the reactant comprises particles having a diameter of approximately 0.001 mm to approximately 10 mm.

48. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the reactant comprises particles having a diameter of approximately 0.001 mm to approximately 1 mm.

49. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the reactant comprises particles having a diameter of approximately 0.001 mm to approximately 0.1 mm.

50. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the reactant comprises pellets having a nominal diameter/length of approximately 0.1 mm to approximately 10 mm.

51. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the reactant comprises particles with a grain size of approximately 5 mm to approximately 7 mm.

52. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the pH of said water is in the range of approximately 3 to approximately 10.

53. (New) The method of Claim 25, wherein the reactant comprises particles having a diameter of approximately 0.001 mm to approximately 10 mm.

54. (New) The method of Claim 25, wherein the reactant comprises particles having a diameter of approximately 0.001 mm to approximately 1 mm.

55. (New) The method of Claim 25, wherein the reactant comprises particles having a diameter of approximately 0.001 mm to approximately 0.1 mm.

56. (New) The method of Claim 25, wherein the reactant comprises pellets having a nominal diameter/length of approximately 0.1 mm to approximately 10 mm.

57. (New) The method of Claim 25, wherein the reactant comprises particles with a grain size of approximately 5 mm to approximately 7 mm.

58. (New) The method of Claim 25, wherein the pH of said water is in the range of approximately 3 to approximately 10.

59. (New) The method of Claim 25, wherein said packed column comprises an inlet end, a middle and an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end containing reactant having a size larger than the reactant contained in said middle.

60. (New) A method to reduce the concentration of arsenic in aqueous solutions, comprising contacting arsenic-containing water with a reactant selected from the group consisting of limestone, dolomite, and mixtures and combinations thereof, said reactant comprising particles having a diameter in the range of approximately 0.001 mm to approximately 10 mm, and said water having a pH in the range from approximately 3 to approximately 10, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 30 parts per billion.

61. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 20 parts per billion.

62. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 10 parts per billion.

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63. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the amount of arsenic in said water is reduced to a concentration of less than approximately 5 parts per billion.